



Bitter  
Cigar

DRINK

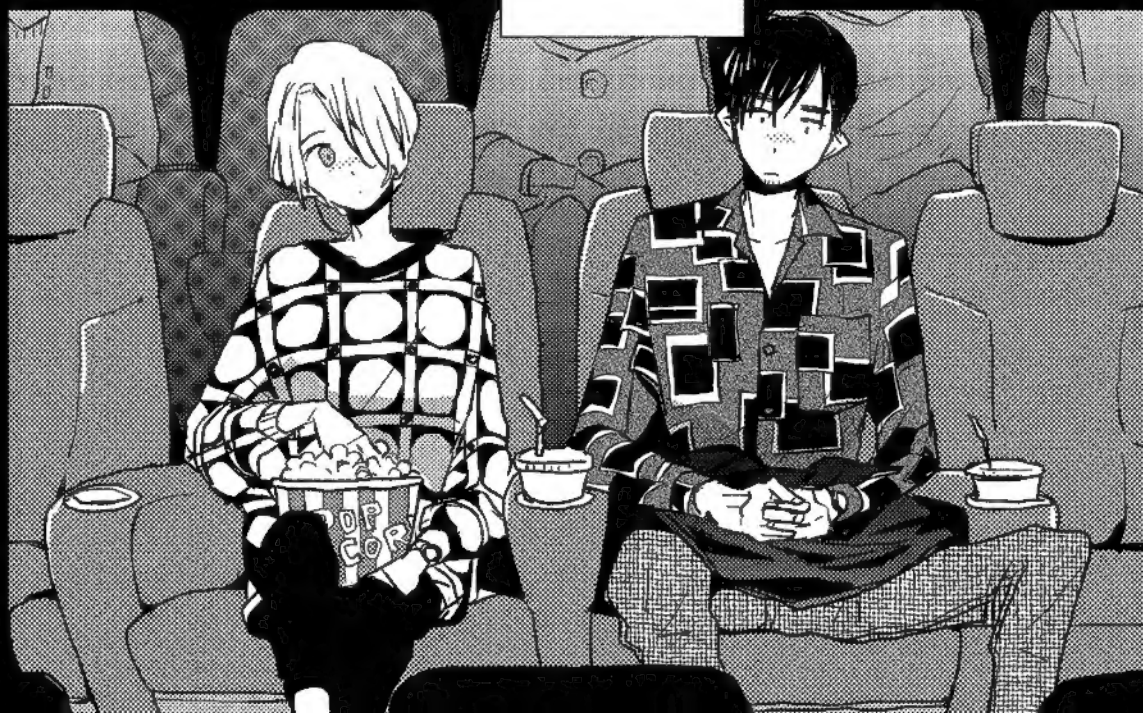
POPCORN

BITTER  
CIGAR

#5

JEAN PAUL

WE DECIDED  
TO GO SEE  
A MOVIE  
TOGETHER.



I WAS  
ABLE TO  
GET VARIOUS  
DIFFERENT  
IMPRESSIONS  
FROM IT.

NATURALLY,  
SEEING THE  
MOVIE FOR  
THE SECOND  
TIME,



THOSE  
ARE WORDS  
THAT YOU  
WANT THE  
MAN YOU  
LOVE TO  
TELL YOU.



AND  
THAT MAN  
ISN'T ME,  
IS IT?





SURE ARE  
AMAZING.

ACTORS AND  
ACTRESSES



It'd be nice if that were true~

IT'S BECAUSE THE ORIGINAL WORK WAS DONE BY YOU.

THEY WENT BEYOND MY EXPECTATIONS!



BY INTERACTING WITH PEOPLE THE WORLD CHANGES.

YOU SAID IT

DURING THE ADVANCE SCREENING, DIDN'T YOU?



I THOUGHT THAT IT WAS AMAZING

THAT YOU INVOLVED SO MANY TYPES OF PEOPLE IN SOMETHING YOU CREATED.

I THOUGHT IT WAS A REALLY GREAT SENTIMENT.



I MEAN,

I'M  
ONE OF  
THOSE  
PEOPLE  
TOO.



The  
sake here  
sure is  
delicious.

Miss,

Did he  
just dodge  
that....?

Another  
round,  
please.



Hehehe.

**GRIN**

I'm so  
happy!

Thank  
you!

ugh.



Glug Glug Glug Glug Glug Glug Glug

RIGHT NOW  
I'M COMPLETELY  
SWEEPED AWAY  
BY IT,

BUT ISN'T  
THE "PERSON  
HE LIKES" A  
MAJOR MIS-  
UNDERSTAND-  
ING ON MY  
PART...?!

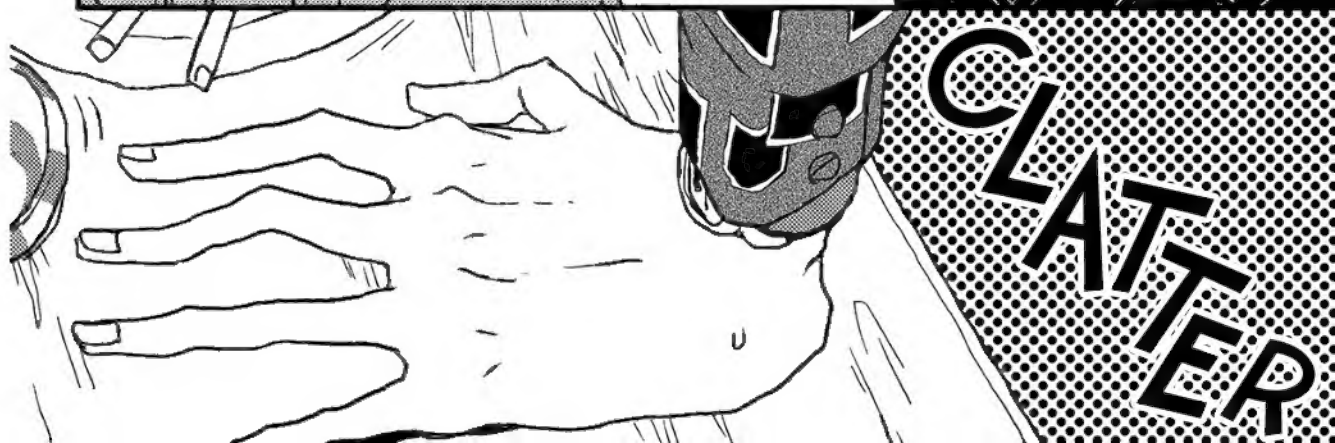
IS IT  
REALLY  
THE MAN  
IN THE  
PHOTO  
AFTER  
ALL?

If he  
cut his hair,  
everyone would  
tell him he  
looks cute.

SAY,

THE  
OTHER  
DAY...

HUH?

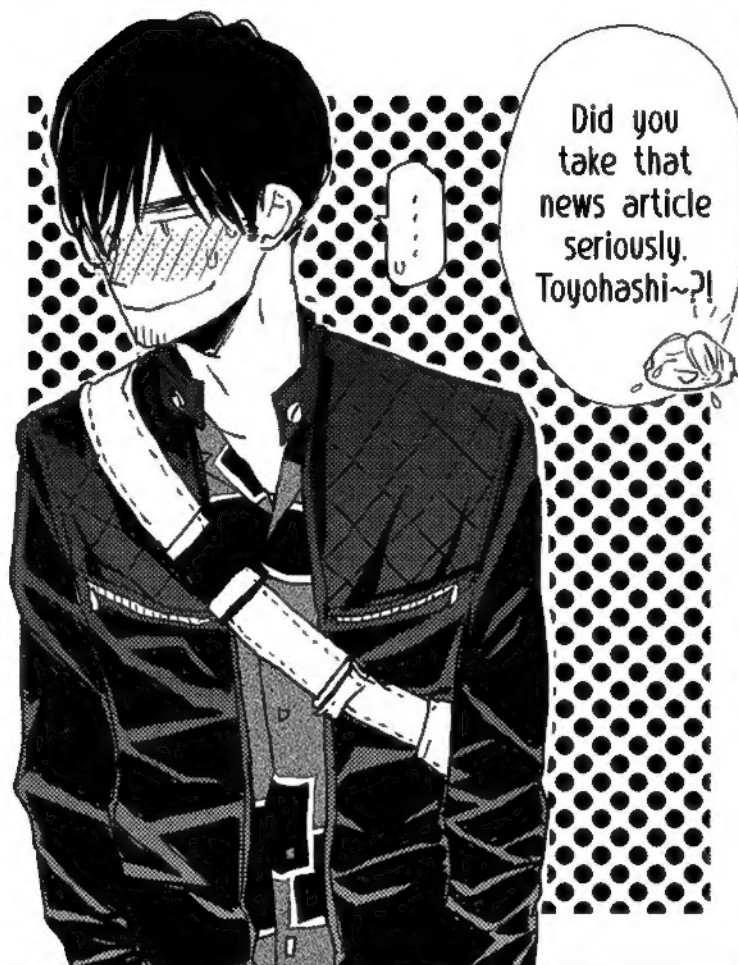






...HUH?





Did you  
take that  
news article  
seriously.  
Toyohashi~?!

HA  
HA  
HA  
HA!!!



SHUT  
UP!

SO YOU  
READ  
THOSE  
KINDS OF  
ARTICLES.



Ahaha!

Blegh

Blegh

I JUST  
HAPPENED  
TO SEE  
IT!  
I NOR-  
MALLY  
DON'T  
READ  
THEM...

...WELL,



HUH?  
YOU'VE GOT  
IT WRONG.  
YUMEJI-  
KUN'S A  
GIRL.

BE-  
CAUSE  
OF WHERE  
THAT PIC-  
TURE HAD  
BEEN  
TAKEN...

I  
THOUGHT,  
FOR SURE,  
HE WAS  
YOUR  
LOVER.

I mean,  
I didn't  
know he  
had a  
girlfriend  
and all.



Isn't  
she  
cool?!

CLANG

Now  
that you  
mention it,  
her hand  
was really  
pretty!

A  
GIRL  
...?!



SO YOU  
WERE  
WORRIED  
FOR ME.

I don't  
get any-  
thing any-  
more...




No wait,  
if she's a girl  
then that just  
makes them  
a straight  
couple...???

Ah,  
but if he  
has a girl-  
friend, then  
it'd be that  
person...?!







YOU WHO OR  
NORMALLY WHAT  
DO THINGS WITH,  
OR WHAT YOU'RE  
BEING TOLD.

I MEAN,  
I WOULDN'T  
KNOW



THAT WAS  
OBVIOUSLY  
YOU, WASN'T  
IT?

I HONESTLY  
WONDERED  
IF THAT GIRL  
WAS THE  
PERSON YOU  
MENTIONED  
YOU LIKED

AT THE  
ADVANCE  
SCREEN-  
ING...






WHEN YOU  
TOLD ME I  
WAS CUTE,  
I WAS SO  
HAPPY

AT  
THAT  
TIME,




I  
DIDN'T  
KNOW  
HOW TO  
REACT,

SO  
I RAN  
AWAY.



BECAUSE  
OTHERWISE  
YOU'D HAVE  
FOUND OUT  
HOW I  
FELT.





...DON'T  
YOU  
FEEL  
GROSSED  
OUT?

WHY  
WOULD  
I?

Step



WOULD  
IT BE SO  
BAD IF I  
FOUND  
OUT?



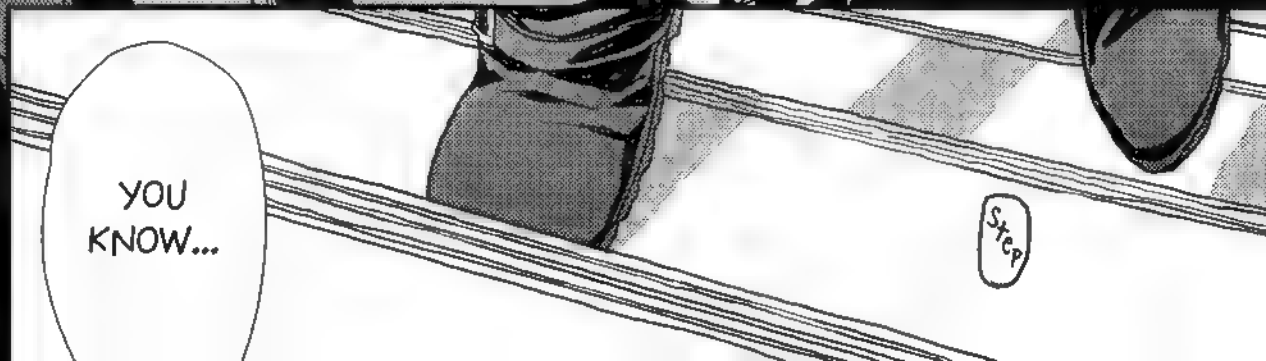
"WHY"...

Step

Step



'CUZ  
...



YOU  
KNOW...

Step





Tap

SO  
WHY

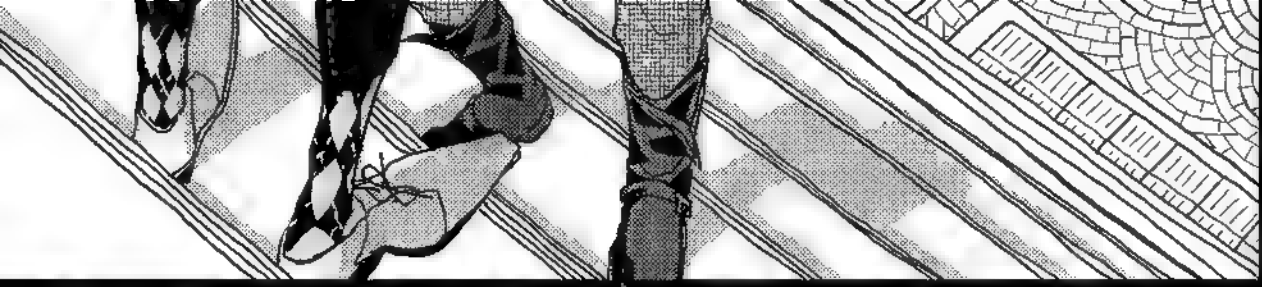
I'VE  
ALWAYS  
THOUGHT  
YOU  
LOOKED  
CUTE

DO I  
END UP  
MAKING  
YOU  
CRY?



WHEN  
YOU  
SMILE,



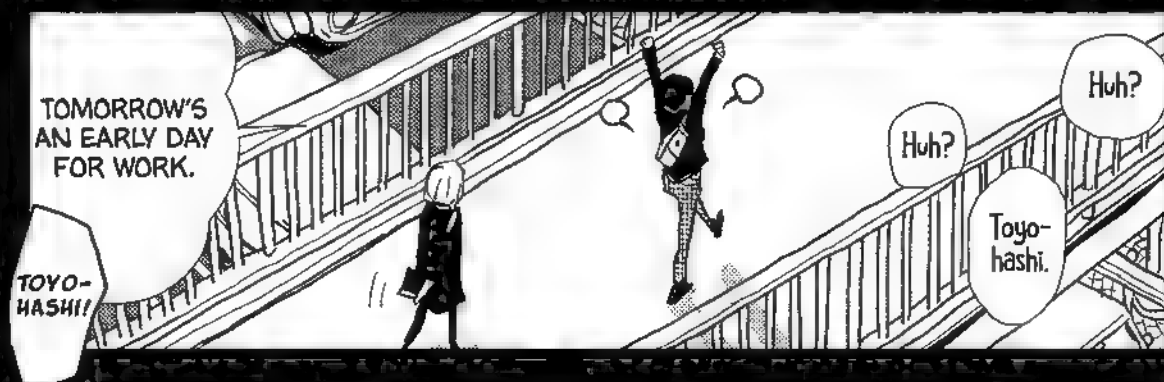


Heh.



You  
stopped  
crying.







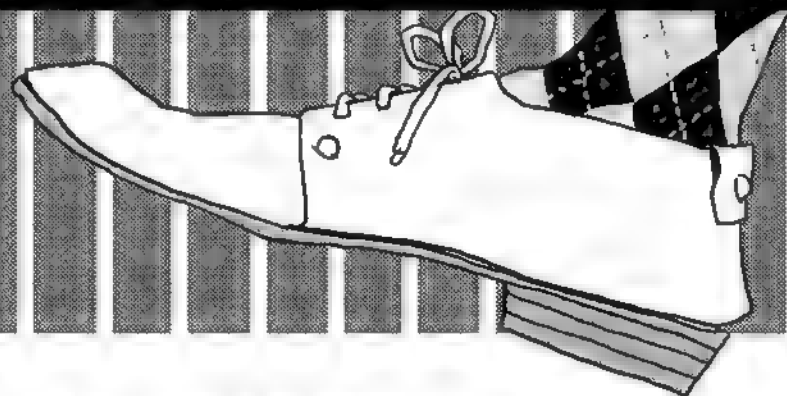
A black and white manga-style illustration. A person with short, light-colored hair is seen from the back, wearing a jacket with a diamond-quilted collar. They are carrying a large, rectangular box or folder under their right arm. The background is a dense, chaotic pattern of thin, intersecting lines, with several small, five-pointed stars scattered throughout. In the lower corners, there are faint outlines of buildings or structures.

I'M NOT  
DRUNK.



A close-up, black and white manga-style illustration of a person's face. The person has long, light-colored hair that is tied back. Only the lower half of the face is visible, showing the mouth and chin. The background is a dense, chaotic pattern of thin, intersecting lines, similar to the one in the top panel.

Umm...

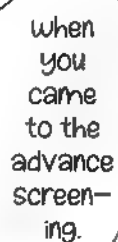




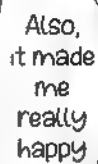
I WANT  
TO REPAY  
YOU FOR  
THE OTHER  
DAY.



LET'S  
GO  
DRINK-  
ING  
AGAIN.



when  
you  
came  
to the  
advance  
screen-  
ing.



Also,  
it made  
me  
really  
happy



Thanks  
  
for  
watching  
the movie  
with me  
today.



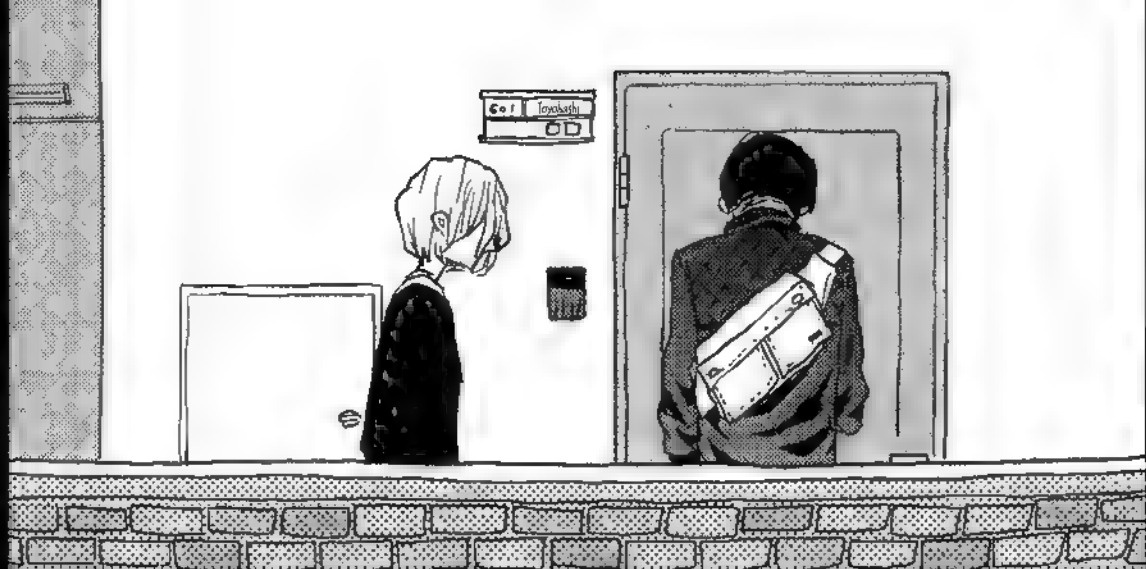
MHM.

SEE  
YOU  
THEN.

Konoharashi  
[ ] [ ]





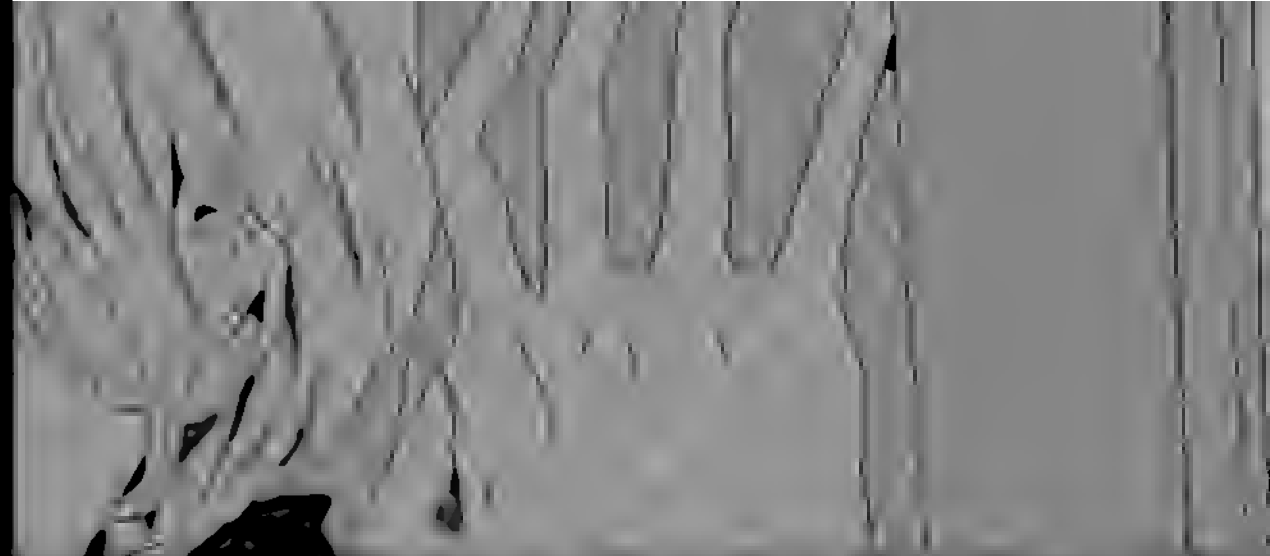


...WON'T  
YOU STAY  
OVER?

601 Toyohashi

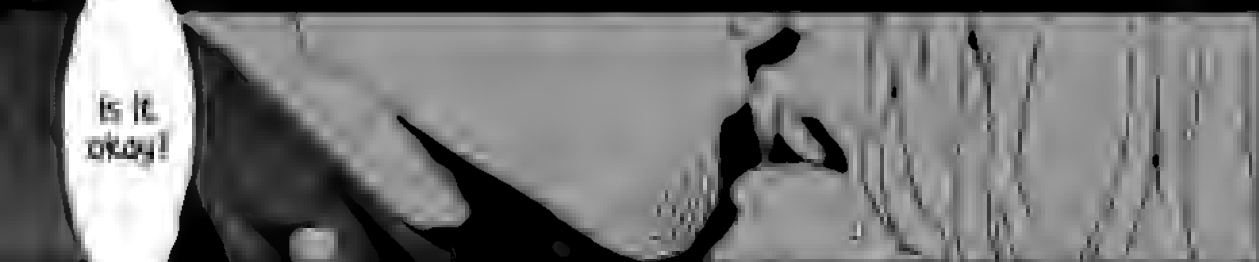


SHUT





Hey.



Is it  
okay?



I'm a  
sushi



...WHY  
WOULD YOU  
THINK THAT  
THAT'S NOT  
OKAY?





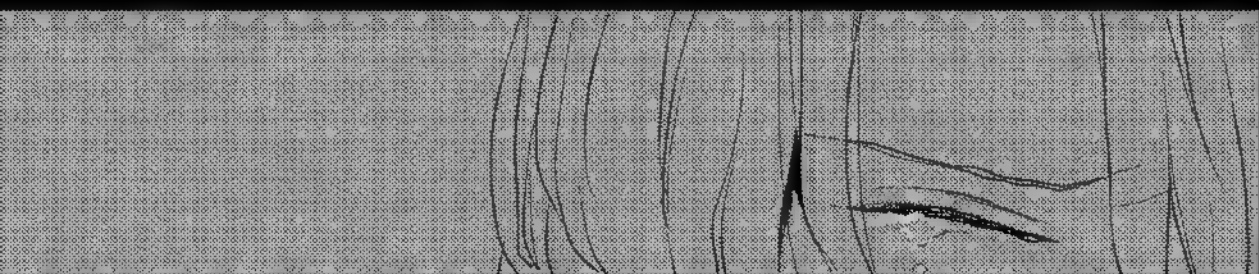
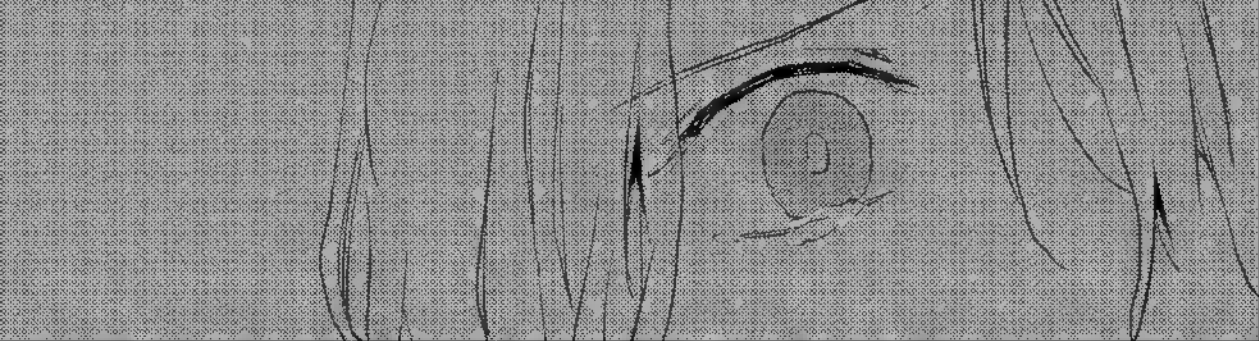
WOULD  
IT BE  
STRANGE  
FOR ME TO  
FALL FOR  
YOU?

TAKAT:  
SURE.

YOU  
WON-  
DERED  
WHY IT  
WAS  
THAT

GIRLS  
WERE  
PINK.

AND  
BOYS  
WERE  
BLUE,  
RIGHT?



NO...

I THOUGHT,  
AT FIRST, THAT  
THE EXPRESSION  
OF THE HEROINE,  
AFTER BEING  
ASKED BY HER  
NEW LOVER,

"IT'S  
NOT ME,  
IS IT?"

SIGNIFIED HER  
AGREEMENT.



WHEN I  
SAW IT THE  
SECOND  
TIME,

Creak

I STARTED  
THINKING  
THAT SHE  
PROBABLY  
WANTED TO  
CHANGE

AND  
WANTED  
TO BE  
CHANGED.



Creak

Creak



Creak

Jolt

Creak

"YOU  
MIGHT  
NOT  
UNDER-  
STAND,"

Mm

Creak

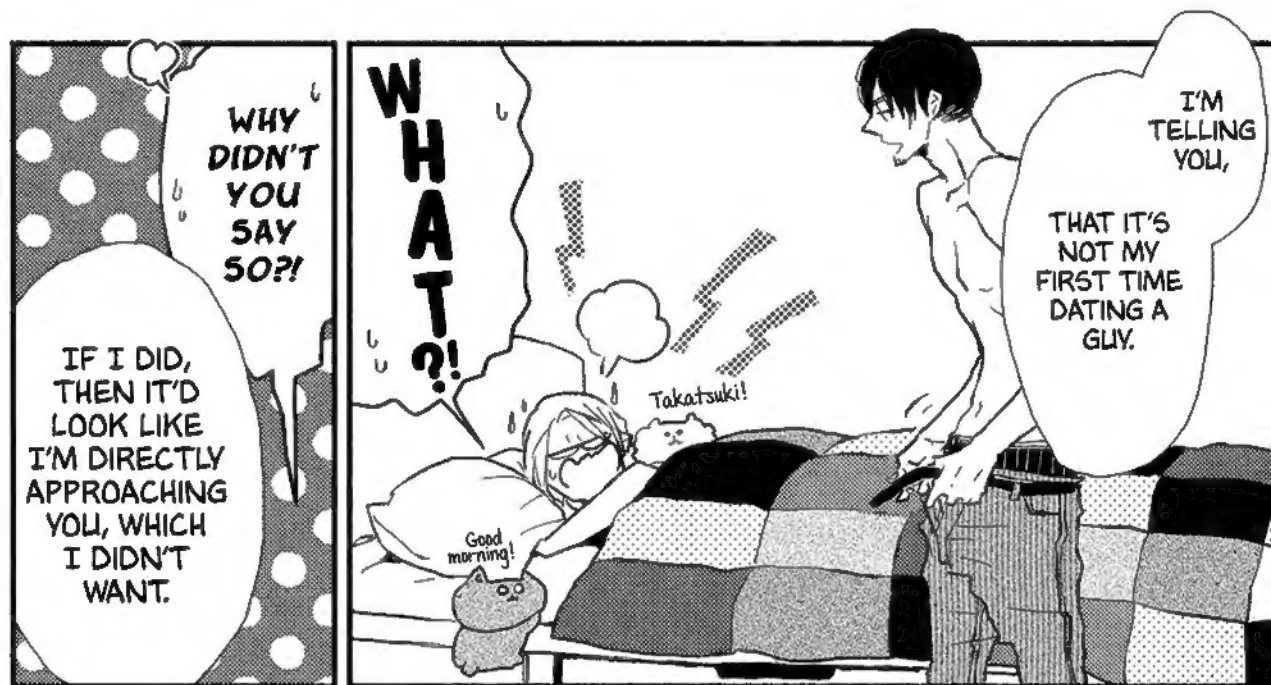
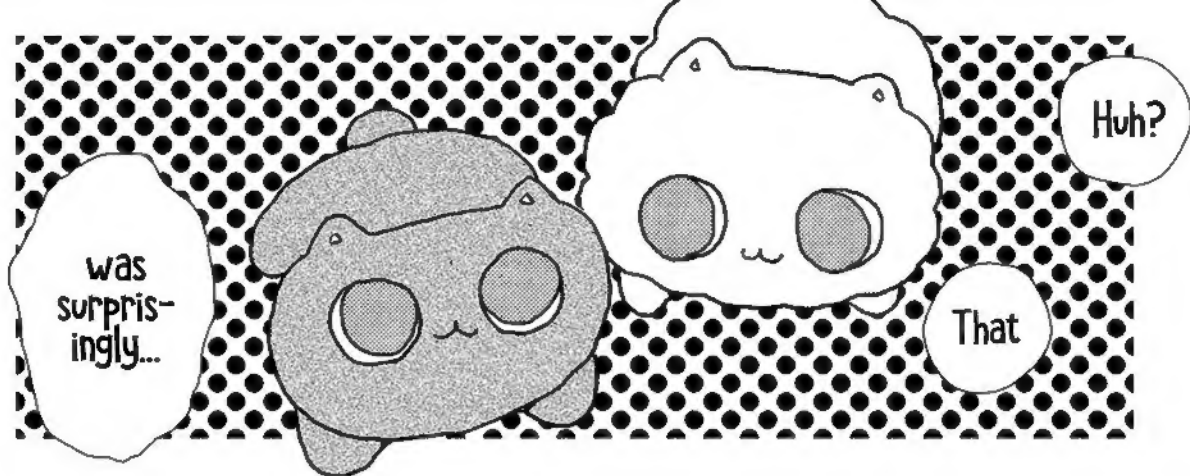


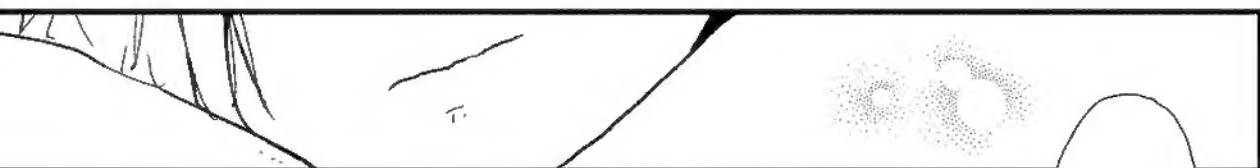
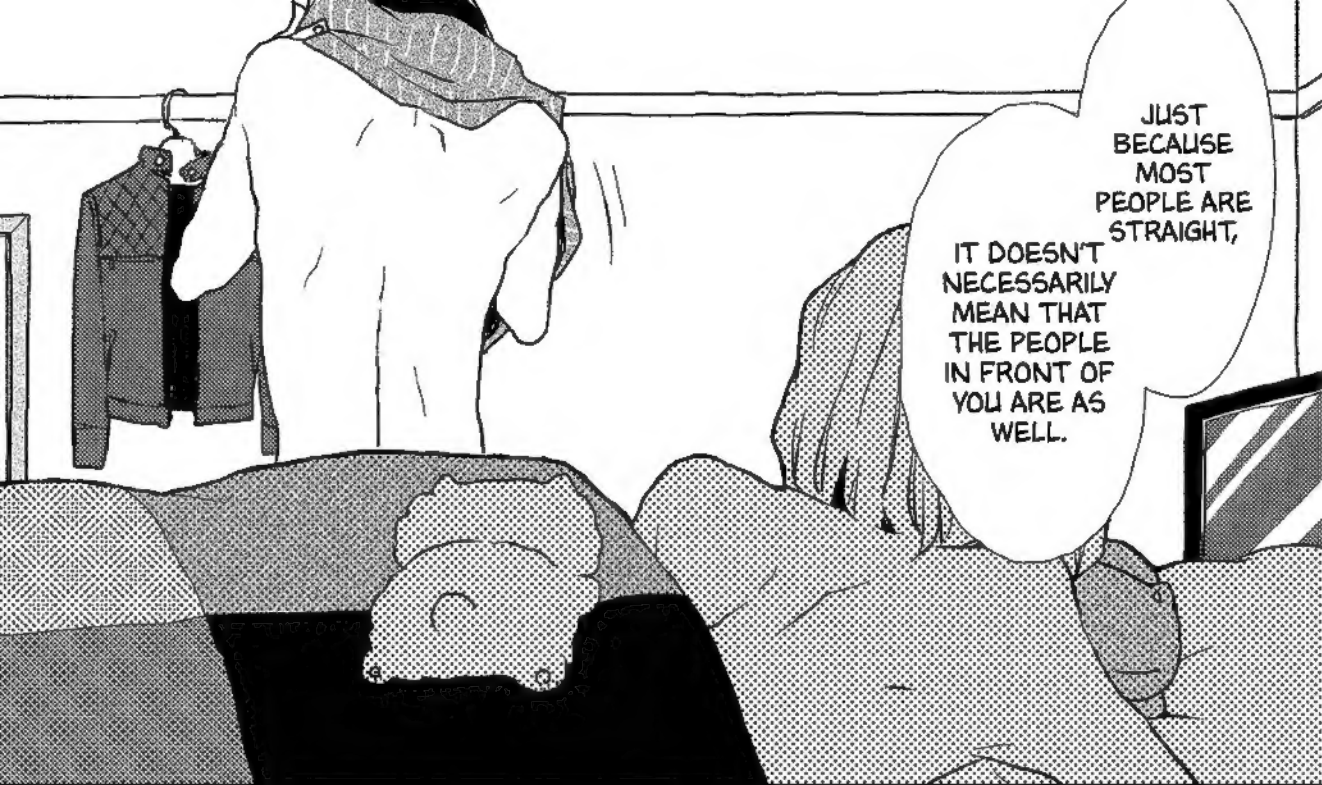
IF  
ONLY

He's  
so  
cute...

SHE  
COULD  
CONVEY  
IT MORE  
EASILY.







I  
told you,  
I have  
work.



THE  
STARS ARE  
SHINING  
MORE  
BRIGHTLY  
THAN  
BEFORE.

THE  
EATING  
UTENSILS  
FOR TWO  
HAVE IN-  
CREASED,

THE  
FRIDGE  
HAS  
BECOME  
FULL,

O

Pen

Huh?  
Isn't the  
fridge  
kinda  
full?

It's  
been  
years  
since  
I last  
made  
break-  
fast.

YOU  
MIGHT  
NOT

HAVE  
NOTICED

THAT  
THOUGH.

end